

UNITED PRESS
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ADD 2 CUBA, WASHINGTON

THE NAVY'S DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE TESTIFIED TODAY THAT HE BECAME "INCREASINGLY APPREHENSIVE" LAST SEPTEMBER ABOUT THE NATURE OF CUBA'S MILITARY BUILDUP IN CUBA AND ORDERED HIS AIDES TO GO ALL OUT TO DETERMINE ITS NATURE AND EXTENT.

REAR ADM. VERNON L. LORANCE TESTIFIED THAT NAVY INTELLIGENCE EFFORTS AIMED ESPECIALLY AT FINDING POSSIBLE SUBMARINE BASES. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT "THE POSSIBILITY OF MISSILES OF STRATEGIC RANGE AS WELL AS BOMBING AND SUBMARINE WAS CONSTANTLY CONSIDERED AND CONSTANTLY WATCHED FOR" BY THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

LORANCE TESTIFIED HAVING CLOSED-DOORS IN THE CUBA INQUIRY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE SENATE PREPARATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE. A DECLASSIFYING VERSION OF HIS STATEMENT, MADE PUBLIC BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE, GAVE THE SAME RUN-DOWN ON CUBA'S PRESENT CUBA FOCUS AS WAS PROVIDED EARLY THIS MONTH BY JOHN A. MCCONE, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE.

LORANCE TESTIFIED THAT "RELIABLE COVERAGE OF CUBA IS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM." HE SAID THAT "ON THIS SCORE WE TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED. EVERY REPORT IS TAKEN AS FACE VALUE UNTIL IT CAN BE THOROUGHLY CHECKED OUT."

"AFTER ALL," HE SAID, "THE INTELLIGENCE AVAILABLE WAS AND STILL IS GOOD ENOUGH TO SHOW THAT THE SOVIETS WANT TO GAIN AND MAINTAIN IF POSSIBLE A SECURE FOOTHOLD IN CUBA SO AS TO POSE A REAL AND PRESENT THREAT TO THE SECURITY AND PEACE OF THIS HEMISPHERE."

HE TESTIFIED THAT CUBAN RADIO TRANSMITTERS, THE CUBAN PRESS SERVICE, PIRENA LATINA, AS CUBAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS HAVE BEEN SPREADING COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA IN LATIN AMERICA. HE SAID IT IS "THE BETTER PART OF WISDOM TO CONSIDER THE CUBAN POTENTIAL FOR SUBVERSION IN LATIN AMERICA AS A SERIOUS THREAT."

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FEBRUARY 28, 1963

ADD 4 CUBA, WASHINGTON

REP. PAUL ROGERS, D-FLA., CHARGED ON THE HOUSE FLOOR TODAY THAT POOR WEATHER COULD "HARDLY BE THE REASON WHY THE CIA WAS UNABLE TO PRODUCE PHOTOS OF RUSSIAN MISSILES IN CUBA, AND THE AIR FORCE DID."

ROGERS SAID THAT ON OCT. 14 WHEN THE AIR FORCE'S STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND MADE ITS HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH OF THE RED OFFENSIVE ROCKETS. "WEATHER CONDITIONS ON THAT MORNING WERE GENERALLY AS CLOUDY AND DIFFICULT AS THOSE UNDER WHICH THE CIA HAD BEEN OPERATING FOR THE PREVIOUS FIVE WEEKS."

THE FLORIDA CONGRESSMAN SAID HE MADE A STUDY OF THE WEATHER REPORTS FOR CUBA COVERING THE PERIOD.

THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ACKNOWLEDGED TUESDAY THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE OF CUBA WAS SHIFTED FROM THE CIA TO SAC A DAY OR TWO BEFORE LAST OCTOBER'S MISSILE CRISIS.

IN HIS SPEECH ON THE HOUSE FLOOR, ROGERS DEMANDED TO KNOW THE REASON WHY CIA OVERFLIGHTS DID NOT TURN UP THE SAME INFORMATION SAC DID.

"FROM PUBLISHED REPORTS," HE SAID, "IT APPEARS THAT THE VERY FIRST STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND OVERFLIGHT OF CUBA PRODUCED THE PHOTOGRAPHS WHICH SHOWED THE EXTENT OF RUSSIAN MISSILES IN CUBA WAS SUFFICIENT FOR THE PRESIDENT TO ACT."

ROGERS SAID THE MYSTERY OVER THE MATTER WAS ANOTHER GOOD REASON WHY THE HOUSE AND SENATE SHOULD SET UP A JOINT WATCHDOG COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE OPERATIONS OF THE CIA. HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT "FOR THE SECURITY OF THIS NATION."

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ADD 1 CUBA, WASHINGTON (UPI-55)

MEANWHILE, SENATE GOP LEADER EVERETT DIRKSEN CHARGED THAT SOMEBODY HAD BEEN PUTTING "GENTLE PRESSURE" ON POSSIBLE WITNESSES WHO MIGHT BE CALLED IN A NEW INVESTIGATION OF THE BAY OF PIGS FIASCO:

THE ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN DECLINED TO AMPLIFY HIS ASSERTION BUT APPEARED CONFIDENT THAT HIS OWN REVIEW OF THE INVASION WILL BE EXPANDED INTO A FORMAL SENATE COMMITTEE INQUIRY:

"THERE HAVE BEEN SOME INDICATIONS OF GENTLE PRESSURES ON PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE SUMMONED BEFORE A COMMITTEE IN DUE TIME," HE TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE:

THE GOP LEADER SAID HE WAS GLAD TO SEE SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MIKE MANSEFIELD CONFIRM HIS OWN REPORT THAT FOUR CIVILIAN AMERICAN FLIERS HAD DIED IN THE APRIL 1961 CUBAN INVASION EFFORT. DIRKSEN SAID THAT, UNLIKE MANSEFIELD, HE HAD NOT BEEN TOLD PREVIOUSLY THAT THE FOUR AMERICANS HAD BEEN KILLED: MANSEFIELD SAID HE HAD BEEN GIVEN THE INFORMATION ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS:

DIRKSEN REFUSED TO DISCLOSE WHAT SENATE COMMITTEE HE WOULD SEEK TO HAVE PICK UP HIS INVESTIGATION. HE PLANS TO SUBMIT HIS OWN REPORT TO FELLOW REPUBLICANS PROBABLY NEXT WEEK AND ADDED:

"I EXPECT TO SEE IT LAND IN THE HANDS OF A COMMITTEE OF DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS FOR THOROUGH EXAMINATION, USING SUBPOENA POWERS IF NECESSARY, SO IT WILL NOT BE IMPEACHED AS A PARTISAN DOCUMENT."

2/28--AMLOTPES

UPI-99

ADD 3 CUBA, WASHINGTON

LOWRANCE NOTED THAT "IN THE CASE OF THE IREM AND MREM SITES, THESE WERE SEARCHED FOR, AND EVENTUALLY PHOTOGRAPHY CONFIRMED THEM IN THE MIDST OF RAPID SITE CONSTRUCTION," ALONG WITH "STRONGLY SUSPECTED IL28 BOMBERS ON A CUBAN AIRFIELD.

THIS CHRONOLOGY OF HIS OWN ASSESSMENT OF RUSSIA'S BUILDUP LAST FALL EMERGED FROM LOWRANCE'S TESTIMONY:

JULY, 1962--LOWRANCE THOUGHT INCREASING SOVIET SHIPPING TO CUBA WAS PARTLY TO "MODERNIZE AND EQUIP CUBAN FORCES" AND PARTLY TO BUILDUP CUBAN ECONOMY. AT THE SAME TIME HE NOTED THAT MILITARY CARGOES WERE BEING CARRIED ENTIRELY IN AN INCREASING NUMBER OF RUSSIAN SHIPS WHILE NON-MILITARY CARGOES TRAVELLED TO CUBA IN CHARTERED VESSELS.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER--A PATTERN OF ARMS SHIPMENTS--INCLUDING SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES, SHORT RANGE CRUISE MISSILES, NAVAL MISSILES, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT AND GROUND FORCES. IT WAS "APPARENTLY INTENDED TO DEFEND CUBA AGAINST INVASION" BUT THE POSSIBILITY OF OFFENSIVE MISSILES AND BOMBERS WAS CONSTANTLY CONSIDERED.

"WHEN WE NOTED BY LATE AUGUST THE INTRODUCTION OF SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES AS WELL AS THE KOMAR FMCS (PATROL VESSELS) AND CRUISE MISSILES IN SEPTEMBER I BECAME INCREASINGLY APPREHENSIVE OF THE SOVIET INTENT AND INSTRUCTED MY PEOPLE TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED TO DETERMINE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE SOVIET BUILDUP.

"WE SEARCHED CAREFULLY AND CONTINUALLY FOR EVIDENCE OF SUBMARINE BASE FACILITIES BUT IN SPITE OF A FEW REPORTS OF QUESTIONABLE RELIABILITY WE COULD FIND NO INTENT TO BASE SUBMARINES THERE," THE ADMIRAL SAID.

REFERRING TO THE DISCOVERY OF--AND REMOVAL OF THE MEDIUM RANGE MISSILES AND BOMBERS, LOWRANCE SAID THERE WAS "NO EVIDENCE" THAT ANY IRMS EVER REACHED CUBA:

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